GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1519
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2014
SAFETY OF WOMEN WORKERS
Reddy Shri Ponguleti Srinivasa

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a)whether the Government has devised norms to ensure safety of women workers particularly those working in night shifts in various firms and industries;

(b)if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c)the other measures taken by the Government for enchancing security and protection of women working under such circumstances?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR STEEL, MINES, LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI)

(a) & (b): The Factories Act, 1948 contains several provisions related to the safety of women worker working in the factories. Some of the important provisions include:

(i) Section 22:- No women shall be allowed to clean or lubricate or adjust any part of transmission machinery while it is in motion.

(ii) Section 27;- No women shall be employed in any part of factory for pressing cotton in which a cotton opener is at work.

(iii)Section 34:-No women shall be permitted to lift an excessive weight which has been prescribed in the rules under the Factories Act, 1948.

(iv) Section 66:- Restriction of employment of women in night shift- - No woman worker shall be required or allowed to work in factory except between the hours 6.00 a.m. to 7 p.m. Provided that the State Government may by notification in the official gazette, in respect of any factory or group or class or description of factories, authorize the employment of any woman worker between the hours of 5.00 a.m. and 10.00 p.m.

(v) Section 87:- Prohibition/restricting the employment of women in a manufacturing process or operations in a factory which exposes any person employed in it to a serious risk of bodily injuries, poisoning or diseases.

(c): In respect of the factories registered under the Factories Act, 1948, mechanisms are in place to initiate legal action and launch prosecution against such factories that violate the provisions of the Act and Rules framed there under.